

Kensington Around Town December 2022



Please join us for the 2nd annual Light Up KTown



Friday, December 2, 2022 • 6 - 7 PM
Howard Avenue Park | 3716 Howard Avenue

The Town of Kensington has partnered with KTown Ladies to bring the TOK residents the 2nd annual seasonal lighting ceremony. Please join us for hot adult beverages, hot cider and hot chocolate, s'mores by the fire pits, music, and merry making! The lighting ceremony begins at 6:15pm and there will also be a brief announcement about the home decorating award contest categories and rules. Enjoy the lights in Howard Avenue Park every evening through January 8.

Thank you to our KTown Light Up sponsors:

Kyle Richards, Compass, The Dish and Dram, and SW7

House Decorating Contest 2022

Award Categories:

- **The Griswold Award:** Most decorated (best total house and yard décor)
- **The Winter Wonderland Award:** Most creative design
- **The It's a Wonderful Life Award:** Best classic decoration
- **The Traffic Stopper Award:** Wow! Your house is so lit your neighbor is annoyed

Thank you to Kyle Richards and Strosniders Hardware
for co-sponsoring the House Decorating contest.

For more information and to register your home or business visit:

KTownLadies.org/upcoming-events

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

Toys for Tots Donation | Donation Box in Town Hall | Weekdays 8am-4pm | Until December 9

Town Council Meeting | Kensington Town Hall | Tuesday, Nov 15 • 7pm

Thanksgiving Town Dance | Town Hall | Wednesday, November 23 • 7-11pm

DECEMBER

The British Players present: Rapunzel: A Tangled Panto | Town Hall | Dec 2-Jan 7

SW7 Holiday Open House | 3750 Howard Ave | Friday, December 2 • 5-8pm

Look Again Resale Shop Open House | 3716 Howard Ave | December 2 • 7-10pm

Light Up KTown | Howard Avenue Park | Friday, December 2 • 6-7pm

Antique Row Holiday Open House | Howard Avenue | Friday, December 2 • 7-9pm

Christmas Tree Lighting | Town Hall | Sunday, December 4 • 5:30 pm

Menorah Lighting | Town Hall | Sunday, December 18 • 6-7pm

Caroling Around the Fountain | Flinn Park | Wednesday, December 21 • 7-8pm

For all Town events visit: [***TOK.md.gov/events***](http://TOK.md.gov/events)



A green poster with gold and white text. At the top, it says 'KENSINGTON' in gold. Below it is a circular image of the Antique Row building. The main text reads 'Holiday OPEN HOUSE' in large, stylized letters. Below that, it says 'FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2' and '7:00 - 9:00 p.m.'. At the bottom, it says 'Join us for refreshments & merriment' and 'KensingtonAntiqueRow.com'.

KENSINGTON

ANTIQUE ROW

Holiday
**OPEN
HOUSE**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Join us for refreshments
& merriment

KensingtonAntiqueRow.com



A poster with a red and white color scheme. At the top, it says 'TOYS FOR TOTS' in large, bold letters, with 'Donations' in a cursive font below it. Below the title, it says 'The Town is once again a Toys-For-Tots drop-off location this holiday season. Inside Town Hall, you'll find a donation box for new unwrapped toys and a drop box for cash/check donations.' Below that, it says 'Donation hours are 8 am - 4 pm Monday through Friday until December 9 Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell Street'. Below that, it says 'Toy donations will also be accepted during: Christmas Tree Lighting Sunday, December 4 • 5:30 pm'. At the bottom, it says 'ToysForTots.org'.

TOYS FOR TOTS
Donations

The Town is once again a **Toys-For-Tots** drop-off location this holiday season. Inside Town Hall, you'll find a donation box for new unwrapped toys and a drop box for cash/check donations.

Donation hours are 8 am - 4 pm
Monday through Friday until December 9
Kensington Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell Street

Toy donations will also be accepted during:
Christmas Tree Lighting
Sunday, December 4 • 5:30 pm

ToysForTots.org

Shop KTown Swag!

You can give and get the best gifts this year by visiting our Kensington SpreadShop! Choose from 23 different products, pick a logo, customize the size and location of the logo, select a color and size and then click add to cart.

Town-of-Kensington.MySpreadShop.com



Fall Leaf Pick-up Schedule

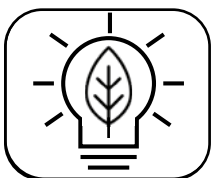
The Town will begin its annual leaf collection Monday, November 7 and it runs through Friday, December 16. There are no scheduled collection zones, as the Public Works Crew will monitor each street on a daily basis.

Gather leaves inside the curb as shown.

Please do not include grass clippings, mulch, twigs, or small branches within leaf piles, as this may damage our leaf vacuum. If your leaf pile contains any materials besides leaves, the Crew will not collect your pile, and you will be responsible for bagging the leaves on your own.



Leaf Composting!



As an alternative to bagging up your leaves or piling them at the curb, consider using a mower to chop up the leaves and either leave them on your lawn or move them to your garden to nourish the soil. You can also put the leaves in your garden beds to insulate perennials and provide an important habitat for pollinating insects through the winter.

Kensington Historical Society



Speaker Series December 5, 7:00 pm Kensington Town Hall

In person and by Zoom (zoom log in to come later)

We are pleased to have Christian McBurney speaking on his new book, *Dark Voyage: An American Privateer's War on Britain's African Slave Trade* (Westholme, 2022).

The book tells the fascinating story of an American privateer during the American Revolutionary War that sails to the coast of Africa and attacks a British slave trading post and British slave ships. At the time, Britain dominated the worldwide slave trade. The book further details for the first time other American privateers capturing numerous British slave ships just before they reached their destinations in the Caribbean, with the consequence of seriously disrupting the British slave trade during the war.

This is Christian McBurney's sixth (and most important) book on the American Revolutionary War. He is President of The George Washington American Revolution Round Table of the District of Columbia. He is an independent historian residing in Kensington, Maryland.

KHS 2023 Calendar

The KHS Calendar team is deep-diving in the KHS Archives to come up with some great images for the 2023 calendar which will be themed around the celebration next year of the 150th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O RR (see below). Don't use a paper calendar you say? Hah! This is not just a calendar but a collection of some of the best images from the KHS Archives. Great to hang in your home or office to see the month at-a-glance or to put in the kid's room. The Kensington events are on the calendar so you have a preview of what's going to happen in the year to come.

The KHS calendar is free to KHS paid members so join or renew and get this special edition. If not, they will be for sale at various venues around Town. The calendar is supported by our wonderful Sponsors. Please note who they are and patronize their establishments as you can. A big thank you to our loyal Sponsors.

Metropolitan Branch of the B&O RR 150th Anniversary Year Celebration

This is going to be a big event for all the stations along the railroad line throughout the County. The Town of Kensington will be partnering with other historic associations and municipalities to recognize the importance of this RR line in the growth of our Town and County. This joint celebration is an opportunity for all groups in Town to collaborate.

The early plans are to have a celebration weekend with special activities going on at stations/towns along the line. We also expect that each historic society or town will have activities throughout the year around this theme. It's easy to envision that we could use our speaker series and concert series and other town activities to highlight our Station and the Line. So - calling all railroad buffs (you know who we're talking about) and those interested in hosting a good time, to get on board (yup - groan - probably more of this in the future) and help make everyone else know what we know - Kensington has the best train station in a great Town. Contact a KHS member to let us know that you're interested.

KHS brings history alive

The KHS Archives is a repository of a lot of fascinating historical documents and images. We are going to bring more of this to the community in a variety of ways. We also enjoy sponsoring (with great co-sponsors) our speaker series to bring experts and authors in to speak about various aspects of our history. What have you enjoyed? What would you like to see KHS do more of? KHS is a Town resource and we want to bring value to the community. Let a KHS Board Member or volunteer know if you have an idea for a program or an area of interest.

KHS continued

Annual Dues

Members and volunteers are the backbone of our organization. It is that time of year and you will be hearing from KHS soon (don't let that stop you from renewing early!) with information about renewing your membership. You can use the KHS WEB site – www.kensingtonhistory.org - or send a check. We value your support and look forward to a great year.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season. See you around Town.

To learn more about KHS visit KensingtonHistory.org.

Town Council Summary



October 11, 2022, Town Council Meeting

(held in person and by Zoom Video Conferencing)

- Approved the Special and Regular Town Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2022.
- Approved the Closed Session Minutes of September 12, 2022.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-24-2022** – A Resolution approving a Declaration of Covenants, Access Easement and Agreement, with 10509 Summit Avenue, LLC.
 - *The Town Attorney will work with the developer of 10509 Summit Avenue to clarify certain aspects of the public plaza, including the landscape plan and a project completion date.*
- Approved **Resolution No. R-27-2022** – A Resolution approving a Variance at 10025 Frederick Avenue to allow for an encroachment of approximately two feet (2') into the allowed ten-foot (10') side yard setback in accordance with Section 5-104 (4)(b) of the Town Code.
- Approved **Resolution No. R-28-2022** – A Resolution authorizing the extension of the existing refuse and recycling contract with Ecology Services Refuse & Recycling, LLC, for the term of one-year.

Building & Town Permits

Please be reminded that both a Town and County permit are needed for any interior or exterior structural changes, with the exception of landscaping and general repairs. Historic District properties will also require a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). Please contact the Town staff at 301-949-2424 with any questions.

10280 Frederick Avenue - Pepco

10400 Armory Avenue - Pepco

10212 Carroll Place - Pepco

3932 Washington Street - Fence/Swimming Pool

10518 Wheatley Street - Addition



Racial Justice



KENSINGTON RACIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

By Ann Lichter and Joanna Pappafotis

We want to make sure our community is aware of a disturbing trend of racist and antisemitic incidents in our area and how we can work together to stop hate and create a welcoming community.

Early Sunday morning on August 7, 2022, a local resident took her toddler to St. Paul Park's playground and she found a racist flier depicting KKK imagery, a noose, a racist slur and a white power website attached to the playground equipment at children's eye level. When she went to remove it, she discovered that razor blades had been attached behind each of the four corners of the paper. Another local resident found a second flier, also with razor blades, attached to a utility box facing St Paul Street. Thankfully no one was physically injured.

That morning, Town Council Members Darin Bartram and Conor Crimmins quickly surveyed the town to make sure there were no other incidents and alerted the community via the Kensington listserv. The incident was reported to the MCPD, the FBI, States' Attorney Hate Crimes Unit, the Maryland Stop Hate Line (211), the Maryland U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). The next day, at the Town Council meeting, Mayor Tracey Furman and the Town Council condemned the hateful incident. One week later, local clergy, including Pastor Pat Allen from St. Paul's Methodist Church, Rev. Adele Crawford from Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, and Town resident Rev. Jill McCrory organized a "prayer in the park" at St. Paul Park to stand against hate. Mayor Tracey Furman and Council Member Lichter have reached out to other municipalities to see how we can work together to support community and law enforcement efforts to stop hate. The Racial Justice Committee has been talking with the ADL about efforts in the County to combat hate and provide community education programs. The Town worked with local property owners to provide security camera footage to the MCPD, and while movement was detected in the park, the images were unfortunately difficult to see. The Town remains in contact with the detective assigned to the case. The Town is also installing security cameras at St. Paul Park and Reinhardt Park.

After the St. Paul Park incident, we learned that many community members assumed this was an isolated event and were unaware of the escalating pattern of incidents. As alarming as the St. Paul Park incident is, it is not isolated or random. From media reports and community conversations alone we are aware of the following:

- Antisemitic fliers at the Bethesda Trolley Trail on August 7 (same day as the St. Paul Park incident);
- Racist KKK fliers in Chevy Chase;
- Racist, white supremacist vandalism at Ken-Gar Palisades Park around June 3;
- Racist, white supremacist vandalism at the Garrett Park MARC station June 9;
- A man went to Temple Emmanuel in Kensington during children's Shabbat services and threatened to destroy Reform Judaism on May 13;
- "White pride" graffiti at Walter Johnson High School October 2021

Sadly, we know there are many others both reported and unreported. The rise in hate and bias incidents in Montgomery mirrors what has been happening nationwide. It's not unusual for people to feel helpless after encountering such hate, or to not know how to respond. So, here's what we can do.

Racial Justice continued

First, if you or your neighbors see racist or antisemitic fliers or graffiti, or witness or experience hate crimes or bias incidents, it is very important that you report it to law enforcement and organizations that track such incidents.

How to Report a Hate Crime or Bias Incident:

- Call 911 if it's an emergency or 301-279-8000 to report it to Montgomery County Police.
- Call MD Stop Hate Line 211
- Call the FBI at 1-800-CALL-FBI
- Complete the ADL's online form at [adl.org](https://www.adl.org)

Second, join us **Wednesday, January 18, 2023** from 7pm to 8:30pm for a special community training from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) at Town Hall. At this training we will learn about the rise in hate crimes and bias incidents and what we can do about it.

Third, **go out of your way to be welcoming and talk to people when you are out in the neighborhood, show up and get involved at community events.** The more engaged and connected and visible we are as a community the better able we are to deter hate and violence and to send a signal to all that we are a welcoming community.

Finally, **join the Kensington Racial Justice Committee** and work with your neighbors to promote learning and understanding, to combat racism, and to build a more inclusive and welcoming community. Email KensingtonRacialJustice@gmail.com to get involved.

Let's work together to make Kensington a safe and welcoming place for all.

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Plants & Flowers
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Prepared Foods
Seafood & Meats**

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***EXPLORE*[KENSINGTON.COM/FARMERS-MARKET](https://www.explorekensington.com/farmers-market)**

Kensington Around Town

December 2022



3710 Mitchell Street Office: 301.949.2424
Kensington, MD 20895 TOK.md.gov

To:



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